

**House File 67 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 67  
BY BRECKENRIDGE

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act limiting campaign contributions to certain candidates  
2 and making civil and criminal penalties applicable.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. NEW SECTION.   **68A.507**   Contribution limits for  
2 candidates.

3     1. For the purposes of this section, "*election campaign*  
4 *cycle*" means the time period between elections for a particular  
5 office. Each primary, general, and special election is a  
6 separate election campaign cycle. Separate contribution limits  
7 for each type of election for a particular office, including  
8 primary, general, and special elections, apply in an election  
9 campaign cycle.

10    2. A person shall not make, and a candidate, candidate's  
11 committee, or anyone acting on behalf of any candidate or  
12 candidate's committee shall not accept, any contribution which  
13 will cause the total amount of the person's contributions to  
14 a candidate or candidate's committee to exceed the following  
15 amounts for an election campaign cycle:

16     a. From a political committee that contributes to five or  
17 more candidates, five thousand dollars.

18     b. From a political committee that contributes to fewer than  
19 five candidates, two thousand seven hundred dollars.

20     c. From a national political party, state statutory  
21 political committee, or county statutory political committee,  
22 five thousand dollars.

23     d. From any other person, two thousand seven hundred  
24 dollars.

25    3. This section applies to candidates for state senator,  
26 state representative, and the office of a statewide elected  
27 official as defined in section 68B.2.

28                                   EXPLANATION

29                   The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
30                   the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

31    This bill imposes campaign contribution limits on candidates  
32 for state senator or representative and candidates for  
33 statewide elected office. In an election campaign cycle,  
34 a political committee that contributes to five or more  
35 candidates shall not contribute more than \$5,000 to one

1 candidate; a political committee that contributes to fewer  
2 than five candidates shall not contribute more than \$2,700 to  
3 one candidate; a national political party, state statutory  
4 political committee, or county statutory political committee  
5 shall not contribute more than \$5,000; and no other person  
6 shall contribute more than \$2,700.

7     A person who willfully violates the bill is, pursuant to Code  
8 section 68A.701, guilty of a serious misdemeanor. A serious  
9 misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for no more than one  
10 year and a fine of at least \$430 but not more than \$2,560.

11     A variety of civil remedies are also available in Code  
12 section 68B.32D for a violation of the bill, ranging from a  
13 reprimand to a civil penalty of not more than \$2,000.